

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/625,501

Examiner

Patricia Hightower

Applicant(s)

RHINE ET AL.

Art Unit

1711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment/response filed 9/20/05 & 10/05/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,9-11,13-15,20-22,24,40-42,46-52,54,56-64,104-106,108 and 110-114.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Reasons For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In view of the applicants' amendment/response filed September 20, 2005 and October 05, 2005 in which it has been established that the prior references do not teach or suggest as claimed ***the process for producing polyimide aerogels that conducts both the step of forming the polyamic acid in the first solvent and contacting the polyamic acid resin with a chemical dehydrating agent in said first solvent; a process of preparing a polyimide aerogel in which a common solvent and reaction mixture is used to form the polyimide precursor resin and to form a polyimide gel by imidization of the polyimide precursor with a chemical dehydrating agent; the method of making carbon aerogels comprising 0.01% and about 15% nitrogen by weight and the polyimide aerogels consisting essentially of a polyimide resin composed of an aliphatic diamine or a diamino substituted alicyclic hydrocarbon or a combination thereof; further the prior art does not teach or suggest polyimide aerogels prepared by condensation of an aliphatic diamine or a diamino substituted alicyclic hydrocarbon or the process of preparing such a polyimide; the articles of manufacture composed of the polyimide aerogel consisting essentially of a polyimide composed of an aliphatic diamine, or a carbon aerogel comprising carbon and nitrogen, further comprising metal particles dispersed in the pores of the polyimide or carbon aerogel and the use of the articles of manufacture as electrodes and the electrochemical cell comprising one or more electrodes composed of at least aerogel selected from***

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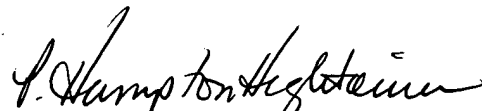
carbon aerogels comprising carbon and nitrogen which has metal particles dispersed in the pores of the aerogel. Thus said claims 1-3,9-11,13-15,20-22,24,39-42,46-52,54,56-64,104-106,108 and 110-114 are allowable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia Hightower whose telephone number is (571) 272-1073. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck can be reached on (571) 272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Patricia H. Hightower
Primary Examiner
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